

were aged by the presence or absence of copper iridescences on the flanks (see Brooke, 1967). Five adults had commenced the moult of their primary feathers, whilst two had fairly unworn primaries with no trace of moult. All seven had fairly fresh secondaries. The seven considered to be birds of the year were all in a state similar to that of the moulting adults. The breeding adult caught and ringed on 17th March showed little plumage wear, and Brooke (1967) has shown that the species has a complete pre-nuptial moult.

Two birds of this party were observed copulating on 6th October, but not subsequently (see Cackett in Brooke, 1967).

Outside the breeding season *L. mevesii* seems to feed to a great extent on fruits, which are most plentiful at the end of the dry season, say October to December. A flock of 150 seen in the Luangwa Valley on 17th July were feeding in *Acacia albida* Del. trees, apparently on the flowers, but possibly also on tender young fruits. My colleague W. L. Astle tells me he can think of no fruiting trees that would be available to *L. mevesii* during the breeding season in the Luangwa Valley, and observations at this nest confirm that the species is then mainly insectivorous.

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An unusual record of the Golden Pipit *Tmetothylacus tenellus* (Cabanis)

by B. W. H. STRONACH

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In February, 1967, three male Golden Pipits (*Tmetothylacus tenellus*) were collected at Mweka, northern Tanzania (3° 15' S., 37° 20' E.). Mweka is situated at 4,500 ft. on the southern slopes of Mt. Kilimanjaro, about eight miles north of Moshi.

This is the first record of this species at Mweka and an unusual one in that these birds are usually found in very dry semi-desert country with a rainfall of about 15 inches per annum, whereas the vegetation at Mweka is described as the lower edge of the montane forest and has a rainfall of 45 inches per annum.

Over the past three years frequent visits have been made to the Tsavo (west) National Park in Kenya (3° 5' S., 37° 50' E.), at all seasons of the year and it was found that these pipits were present there in large numbers in April, May and June but in the early or later months of the year very

few of them were recorded. The occurrence of these birds at Mweka could mean that they undergo a local migration but where they actually move to and from is not known. They certainly appear to breed at Tsavo as their courtship flights were seen frequently.

A new subspecies of *Apalis rufogularis* (Fraser) from Uganda

by STUART KEITH, ARTHUR TWOMEY AND HERBERT FRIEDMANN

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The authors have recently been involved in collecting and studying the birds of the Impenetrable Forest, Kigezi, south-west Uganda. Twomey collected in the forest in 1960, Keith in 1962 and Friedmann has received specimens collected for the Los Angeles County Museum in 1966. Many birds were discovered which were not previously known from Uganda, and a full report on the avifauna of this forest is now being prepared by the authors. In the meantime, since we have discovered only one subspecies from the forest which seems worth describing, we considered it advisable to publish this description separately.

The bird we propose to name is

Apalis rufogularis kigezi, subsp. nov.

Type: Carnegie Museum No. 141190; adult male; Impenetrable Forest, Kigezi, Uganda, 5,000 feet; 7th August, 1960; Arthur Twomey, collector.

Measurements of type: Wing 49; tail 48.

Description: Upperparts considerably greyer, less brown, than in males of *A. rufogularis nigrescens*. A second male, obtained by Friedmann's collectors, is similarly grey above. These two birds were compared with a long series of *A. r. nigrescens* at the American Museum of Natural History, and with a fresh specimen of *nigrescens* taken by Twomey in Kakamega Forest, Kenya. The fresh bird showed no difference in colour above from the older specimens in the A.M.N.H. so the colour difference cannot be due to ageing. The underparts of the Impenetrable Forest birds are much whiter than in the older A.M.N.H. birds, without any buffy wash, but the fresh bird from Kakamega, which is definitely *nigrescens*, is similarly white, so it would seem that a buffy wash on the underparts is acquired with age.

Three females of this new race were collected in the same locality, and these also differ from females of *Apalis r. nigrescens*. They are grey on the head and mantle instead of brown. The amount of green on the back of females of *nigrescens* is variable, and variation also appears in *kigezi*, one of the females having only a trace of green on the back. On the underparts, females have much less rufous than females of *nigrescens*; the rufous colour of the throat only just reaches the breast, whereas in females of *nigrescens* the rufous is more extensive, often reaching to the belly.

Distribution: Only known from the type locality. The race *nigrescens* ranges from western Kenya through Uganda to the eastern Congo, south through the Kivu to Katanga and Mt. Kabobo. Populations from the forests of Kenya, Uganda and the Congo, though discrete, have not been separated and specimens from the A.M.N.H. collection from these countries bear out this treatment. It is therefore somewhat surprising that the Impenetrable Forest should contain birds which appear different. Perhaps